

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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70

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 BIB-01 SP-02 AID-05 EB-07 NSC-05 RSC-01

CIEP-01 TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-01 OMB-01 CEA-01 COME-00

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 IO-10

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P R 041850Z FEB75

FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6911

INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BOGOTA 1124

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR CU CO

SUBJ: REPORTED ANNOUNCEMENT OF COMMERCIAL TIES WITH CUBA

REF: MAISTO/KLEBENOV TELECON FEB 3

1) EMB UNABLE CONFIRM FBIS REPORT (WHICH WE HAVE NOT SEEN) THAT MINISTER OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT JORGE RAMIREZ OCAMPO ANNOUNCED THAT COLOMBIA HAS DECIDED TO RENEW COMMERCIAL RELATIONS WITH CUBA. ON JAN 31. WHEN STATEMENT ALLEDGEDLY MADE, RAMIREZ WAS IN CARACAS FOR MEETING INVOLVING ECLA, WHERE HE ALSO HAD INTERVIEW WITH PRESIDENT PEREZ. UPON RETURN TO COLOMBIA HE IS QUOTED AS SAYING ECLA EXPERTS MEETING IN BOGOTA MARCH 11-15 WILL BE OF "SPECIAL IMPORTANCE".

2. NO ANOUNCEMENT CONCERNING CUBA REPORTED IN BOGOTA PRESS AND GOC TRADE OFFICIAL DENIES ANY WAS MADE. POSSIBLY RAMIREZ REFERRED PUBLICLY IN VENEZUELA TO GOC DECISION IN LATE DEC TO REMOVE PROHIBITIONS ON EXPORTS TO CUBA BY MULTINATIONAL CORPORATIONS OPERATING IN COLOMBIA, WHICH COULD BE STRETCHED TO CONSTITUTE "COMMERCIAL RELATIONS". AS MEMBER OF ECLA, CUBA MAY BE REPRESENTED AT BOGOTA MEETING IN MARCH, THOUGH THERE NO MENTION OF THIS HERE.

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VAKY

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NNN

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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